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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): A recording head in a read/write assembly of a magnetic recording tape system comprises:

a plurality of recording channels fabricated on a wafer; and

an alignment target affixed to the wafer between a first read-write element of a recording channel and a second readwrite element of the recording channel, the alignment target fabricated to produce an optical reflectance signal, wherein the alignment target comprises a plurality of etched alignment grooves, each of the grooves spaced apart from each other and arranged parallel to a direction of magnetic tape travel.

Claim 17 (original): The recording head of claim 16 wherein the alignment target is affixed to the wafer using an ultraviolet (UV) cured adhesive.

Claim 18 (original): The recording head of claim 16 wherein the recording head and the alignment target are fabricated from the same material.

Claim 19 (original): The recording head of claim 18 wherein the material is silicon.

Claim 20 (original): The recording head of claim 18 wherein the material is aluminum titanium carbide (AlTiC).

Claim 21 (original): The recording head of claim 18 wherein the material is silicon - AMC composite.

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Claim 22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (currently amended): The recording head of claim ~~[[22]]~~ 16 wherein the grooves are fabricated using an image reversal resist process.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The recording head of claim ~~[[22]]~~ 16 wherein the grooves are fabricated using a bi-layer resist process.

Claim 25 (original): The recording head of claim 16 wherein each of the grooves has a profile to maximize optical signal reflectivity.

Claim 26 (original): The recording head of claim 25 wherein the orientation comprises a groove depth, a sloped wall groove angle and a bottom shape.

Claim 27 (original): The recording head of claim 26 wherein the groove depth is in the range of 200 to 300 nanometers.

Claim 28 (original): The recording head of claim 26 wherein the sloped wall groove angle is in the range of 50 to sixty degrees.

Claim 29 (original): The recording head of claim 26 wherein the bottom shape is round.

Claims 30-40 (cancelled)

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